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## Today@NPS - January 2015

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Today@NPS showcases some of the speakers, conferences, experiments, lectures, and other events that take place at the Naval Postgraduate School on a daily basis. If you would like more information about any of the highlighted activities please contact the public affairs office at [pao@nps.edu](mailto:pao@nps.edu). To view more stories visit the [Today at NPS archive](#). NPS' photo galleries and graduation pictures can be found on the [Photo Gallery - Collections page](#).



U.S. Navy photo by Javier Chagoya

### Federal Managers Association Welcomes NPS Chapter

By Javier Chagoya

Officers and core members of the newly re-established Federal Managers Association (FMA) Monterey Chapter are photographed with national FMA President Patricia Niehaus, seated center, in the Herrmann Hall Tower Room, Jan. 28.

According to local chapter President Jim Hall, seated left, FMA membership can help NPS managers to improve management practices and further their educational goals through professional development symposia provided by the association.

"The FMA advocates excellence in federal public service through effective management and professionalism, and I hope that NPS managers will see the benefits of membership as a learning and networking tool," said Hall.

The re-establishment of the FMA's Monterey chapter was born from a recommendation made by one of several focus groups created in response to last year's Command Climate Survey. In addition to providing symposia and educational opportunities, FMA lobbies the federal government on issues of importance to federal workers, and represents nearly 200,000 managers and supervisors.

### Student Honored with Surface Navy Association's Arleigh Burke Award

By MC2 Danica M. Sirmans

Navy Lt. Christopher Hayes, a student in NPS' Department of National Security Affairs, offers a few remarks after receiving the Adm. Arleigh Burke Surface Warfare Operational Excellence Award during the Surface Navy Association's (SNA) 27th National Symposium, Jan. 15. Hayes was honored with the award based on his superior performance as Weapons Officer, Navigation Officer and Administration Officer aboard the USS Antietam (CG 54).

"The award is a testament to the arduous duties of those assigned to forward-deployed naval forces, and to my fellow shipmates who supported me throughout my tenure," said Hayes. "Thank you to my fellow Surface Warfare community, both past and present, for their confidence in my abilities, especially Capts. Michael McCartney, Thomas Halvorson, and Thomas Disy, who challenged me to be my best."

SNA's Adm. Arleigh Burke Surface Warfare Operational Excellence Award recognizes a junior Surface Warfare officer, and a junior enlisted Surface Warfare specialist, who have exhibited sustained excellence in the operational art of Surface Warfare as

demonstrated on U.S. Navy surface ships.



Photo courtesy the Surface Navy Association

### ITACS Completes Exhaustive .EDU Accreditation

By MC3 Michael Ehrlich

Members of NPS' Information Technology and Communications Services (ITACS) team are pictured in the university's 'server farm'





U.S. Navy photo by Javier Chagoya

in Ingersoll Hall, Jan. 27. Under their leadership, and through an exhaustive team effort, ITACS successfully completed NPS' required network accreditation for the institution's .EDU designation.

NPS Provost Dr. Douglas A. Hensler described the critical role ITACS plays in academic support.

"ITACS' own stated strategic imperative is to 'enable the NPS mission.' By securing our .EDU designation, ITACS enables our students, faculty and staff to execute their mission in a protected venue of academic freedom," Hensler noted.

Unique among Navy networks, the achievement marks the first .EDU network to receive a full three-year Authority to Operate (ATO) directly from Navy Fleet Cyber Command.

The NPS.edu network was established more than 10 years ago, but this is the first time it has gone through the Navy's grueling accreditation process. Navy accreditation ensures that NPS remains in compliance with Navy information security measures, while the .EDU network provides the freedom necessary for a graduate education institution.

Pictured above, from left, are Director of Cybersecurity Bob Goodwin, Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Director of ITACS Joe LoPiccolo, Applications Systems Engineer Juana Wells, Information Systems Security Manager Artie Gross, Director of Classified Computing Programs Don Free and Deputy CIO for Operations Chris Gaucher.

### Center for Executive Education at the Tip of the SPEAR

By Kenneth A. Stewart

Strategic Planning for Execution: Assessment and Risk (SPEAR) Program Manager Dr. Paul Stames, standing, facilitates a team discussion during the latest edition of the SPEAR workshop at NPS' Center for Executive Education (CEE), Jan. 27. Some 55 senior participants from across DOD are attending the workshop to hone their strategic planning skills, with a focus on risk mitigation.

Stames, an Executive Tailored Support Course coach with the CEE, explained what he believes to be the course's appeal.

"We are not dealing with hypotheticals here, we are dealing with real challenges in order to help command teams to sustain their missions, to improve their long-term strategies, and to increase their mission effectiveness," he said. "This workshop allows command executives and leaders to step away from the immediate challenges that their commands face, and to focus on their long-term strategic needs."

CEE Acting Director Winli McAnally added this year's workshop is unprecedented, with nearly double its usual attendance. "I believe the effectiveness of this workshop is spreading and the requests for team attendance are hitting our maximum capacity at NPS," she noted.

And the SPEAR workshop makes good business sense too, according to McAnally. Disparate commands are often working on similar issues, and workshops like SPEAR offer an ideal venue for the exchange of ideas, lessons-learned and best practices.

"Attendees come to realize that commands are facing similar challenges and are given the opportunity to benefit from the work that other teams are doing," said McAnally.



U.S. Navy photo by Javier Chagoya



U.S. Navy Photo by MC3 Michael Ehrlich

### New DLA Energy Commander Lectures on DOD Efficiency

By MC3 Michael Ehrlich

Commander of Defense Logistics Agency (DLA) Energy, U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Mark M. McLeod, speaks with NPS students during an operations analysis class in Glasgow Hall, Jan. 23. McLeod asked the students about their upcoming thesis work, noting the importance of their research and how it could make an impact on the Department of Defense and other government agencies in the years to come.

"There is a lot to be said for all the things that you are experiencing at NPS," said McLeod. "You are going to get value out of this for many years. The [Department of Defense] wants us to be efficient, not only in operational energy, but in installation infrastructure and so many other arenas ... There is a tremendous effort to find ways to reduce costs everywhere."

As commander of DLA Energy, McLeod is responsible for providing comprehensive energy solutions in the most effective and efficient manner possible. He spent time at NPS to deliver a Defense Energy Seminar to NPS faculty and students, where he discussed the value of the logistics and the importance of efficiency.

"We have identified that there are opportunities to save time and money, and there are many tools in logistics to find the solution," he said.

Prior to his arrival to DLA Energy, McLeod served as the director for Logistics, Engineering and Security Assistance for U.S. Pacific Command Headquarters at Camp H.M. Smith, Hawaii.

### Extracurricular Opportunities on Display During NPS Club Fair

By MC2 Danica M. Sirmans

Students file into NPS' El Prado Room, above, to learn more about the student-led clubs and organizations that are available during the first-ever Club Fair and Social, Jan. 22. The President's Student Council organized the event to provide students with an opportunity to get involved in extracurricular activities.

Lazy Lab Hunting Club President Navy Lt. Matthew Mitchelson saw the event as an opportunity to welcome students and meet new people. His club works with Wounded Warriors and others to promote healing and camaraderie.

"The inaugural NPS Club Fair and Social is of extreme importance to the NPS community. While students and faculty are continuously engaged in research and the pursuit of graduate level knowledge, the ability to engage in extracurricular activities and decompress from the stresses of our academic requirements is a much needed outlet," said Mitchelson.

For those who missed the event, and are looking for more information about how to get involved with existing clubs and organizations, contact Marine Corps Capt. Alexander Beachy with the President's Student Council.



U.S. Navy Photo by MC2 Danica M. Simans



U.S. Navy photo by Javier Chagoya

### Student Evaluates Augmented View for Surface Ship Conning Officers

By Javier Chagoya

NPS computer science student Lt. Brendan Geoghegan, above, demonstrates the Oculus Rift Virtual Reality (VR) head-mounted display he's using as a tool to determine the viability of a novel operational view of the bridge onboard U.S. Navy warships. The display augments a conning officer's visual field with an overlay of critical navigational information (CNI) that is typically relayed via the navigation officer's voice.

"As part of phase one of my thesis, we traveled to the Surface Warfare Officers (SWO) School Command in Newport, Rhode Island, to conduct the experiments with 12 instructors who are seasoned ship drivers, subject matter experts in navigation and executing ship maneuvering. I used the Oculus Rift headset, for which I invested extensive efforts to recreate ship navigation scenarios to avoid shore hazards and other vessels," said Geoghegan.

He then assembled a pool of 13 SWO volunteers from across NPS' campus to conduct the same set of experiments. These participants were also seasoned Navy ship drivers, whose average experience is seven years. The advanced high-definition VR headset is only used as an augmentation to the conning officer in his study.

"Each of my subjects performed tracking response commands broken down into three experimental sessions – one with a navigation evaluator, one with a navigation evaluator and a head's up display, and one with just the head's up display. I now have over 18 hours of simulation data as well as a set of questionnaires filled by each subject, that will be analyzed as a part of my thesis," he explained.

Geoghegan's thesis advisor Research Associate Professor Amela Sadagic oversaw and supported the procedures during each test session. Both emphasize that the results from the study could benefit the Navy in several ways.

"In the final analysis, the solutions being suggested by Lt. Geoghegan may mean savings through reduction of human errors, increased precision in the execution of ship navigation, and a potential savings through reduced manning," said Sadagic. "This line of work has instigated a lot of interest among our students – several of them currently pursue their thesis topics using the same headset. Additionally, the equipment and infrastructure acquired while working on this effort have been already used to enrich the courses taught in the computer science and MOVES curricula."

### Physics Professor Honored with Superior Civilian Service Award

By MC3 Michael Ehrlich

Distinguished Professor of Physics Dr. Bill Colson, right, is presented with the Navy Superior Civilian Service Award from NPS President retired Vice Adm. Ronald A. Route, Jan. 17. Colson is widely recognized as a pioneer in the theory of free electron lasers (FEL), creating an extensive suite of simulation models that have been used to guide FEL development throughout the world.

"It is great to honor a national treasure. Dr. Colson has been a great contributor here at NPS," said Route. "We like to talk about our 'Big Ideas' ... Dr. Colson's lecture about communication with exo-planets is certainly one of the biggest, by an order of magnitude."

During Colson's 26-year tenure at NPS, he advised on more than 80 master and Ph.D. studies, with some of his former students rising through the ranks to lead the Navy's current directed energy efforts.

"This is the best place I have ever worked," said Colson. "The department has always been friendly, supportive and inviting. I'm 71 now, and could have quit by now, but working here with all of you has kept me around. And I will still be around in a smaller capacity for as long as you all can stand me."

While his guidance may remain on campus, Colson's tenure with the university has already been more than productive. In addition to his supervision on student theses, Colson has served as the principle investigator on more than 70 research contracts, published more than 150 research papers, earned five patents, and gave more than 80 invited lectures.





U.S. Navy Photo by MC3 Michael Ehrlich



U.S. Navy photo by Javier Chagoya

### Capt. Rebecca Stone Honored for 30 Years of Naval Service

By Kenneth A. Stewart

Now retired Navy Capt. Rebecca Stone poses for a group photo with several of her students following a retirement ceremony in her honor on the Quarterdeck in Herrmann Hall, Jan. 15. Stone's 30-year naval career was capped by six years at NPS as an Associate Dean for the Graduate School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, and as a military professor in the Department of Oceanography.

"One of my favorite and best things that I did during my teaching career at NPS was make contact with so many officers in the METOC [meteorology/oceanography] community, and help to prepare them for applying their science to Naval operations," said Stone.

NPS Chief of Staff Capt. Deidre McLay served as master of ceremonies at Stone's retirement ceremony.

"Rebecca has been a great friend and advisor to me and many others; she helped me immensely," said McLay. "Her never quit spirit was a source of encouragement and positive energy for all of the NPS team."

"Stone was awarded the Legion of Merit during her retirement ceremony, with the accompanying citation, signed by Director, Navy Staff Vice Adm. Scott H. Swift, a testament to the influence she's had on the university and its students."

"[Stone's] dedicated efforts in the classroom and administration have had an immeasurable impact on her students, the meteorological and oceanographic programs, and contributed to unprecedented levels of mission success at the Navy's premier graduate research university," the citation read.

Stone taught hundreds of students in her 24 meteorology and oceanography courses over the years. She also served on six dissertation committees and as a co-advisor on numerous masters' theses. She intends to stay in the Monterey area where she hopes to further her work with Navy atmospheric and oceanographic models, and to continue playing music.

### Break With Tradition Leads to Four Menneken Award Winners

By Kenneth A. Stewart

The 2014 recipients of the Menneken Faculty Award for Excellence in Scientific Research are pictured outside Herrmann Hall, Jan. 16. For the first time, the NPS Foundation broke with tradition to honor one faculty member from each of NPS' four graduate schools.

"It's not only humbling and gratifying that the foundation makes this kind of recognition, it's also important to the culture of this school," said Associate Professor David Alderson with the Graduate School of Operational and Information Sciences. "You cannot have graduate education without research and a vibrant, healthy research program on campus."

Assistant Professor Erik Dahl with the School of International Graduate Studies also weighed in on the importance of research at NPS. Dahl is the author of, "Intelligence and Surprise Attack: Failure and Success from Pearl Harbor to 9/11."

"We are glad to see that the writing and research that we do not only benefits ourselves, but benefits our students as well," he said. "We are able to take the work that we do and bring it into the classroom."

The NPS Foundation and a committee of experienced university faculty manage the selection process for the Menneken Award, with each of the four award recipients receiving an honorarium of \$5,000.

The Carl E. and Jessie W. Menneken Faculty Award for Excellence in Scientific Research is named in honor of NPS' first dean of research, Carl E. Menneken. It is conferred upon faculty members for outstanding effort and achievement in research that makes a significant impact on the Navy and the Department of Defense. The award is open to all NPS professors.

The four winners, pictured from left to right, are Assistant Professor Erik Dahl, Associate Professor Yu-Chu Shen with the Graduate School of Business and Public Policy, Associate Professor David Alderson, and Associate Professor Claudia Luhrs with the Graduate School of Engineering and Applied Sciences.



U.S. Navy photo by Javier Chagoya



U.S. Navy Photo by MC3 Michael Ehrlich

### Engineering and Applied Sciences Welcomes New Dean

By MC3 Michael Ehrlich

Recently appointed Graduate School of Engineering and Applied Sciences (GSEAS) Dean Dr. Clyde Scandrett is pictured outside Spanagel Hall, Jan. 13. Scandrett assumes GSEAS' top leadership position following the tenure of Dr. Phillip Durkee, who now returns to the classroom as a Professor in the Department of Meteorology.

"I would like to thank Phil for stepping in during a challenging time for GSEAS. He got GSEAS on an even keel," said Scandrett. "We are now set up for success, to move forward with finding more funding, expanding our curricula and increasing our student numbers."

"I think it is in the best interest of the Navy that there are more officers enrolling into the engineering school," Scandrett continued.

Scandrett moves into the dean's position following 28 years of experience at NPS, where he has taught and served in various leadership capacities including terms as chair of both the Undersea Warfare Academic Group and the Department of Applied Mathematics. He began teaching at NPS in 1987, and became a full professor in 2000.

### Latest Energy-Focused Innovation Workshop Underway

By MC2 Danica M. Sirmans

NPS' Center for Executive Education (CEE) welcomes a group of senior military and Department of Defense leaders to campus, kicking off the latest Leading Innovation Energy Application Focus (LIEAF) Workshop, Jan. 12. The five-day workshop exposes leadership to new ideas and best practices in innovation, focused on the application of its core lessons learned to the Navy's energy challenges.

Retired Vice Adm. Mike Vitale and Marine Corps Col. Jim Caley, in addition to several NPS faculty, offered their varied perspectives on key innovation issues, especially in relation to energy. CEE Faculty Director for Innovation Initiatives, Dr. Neal Thornberry is one of the organizers for the five-day seminar.

"We are often asked to innovate in organizations that have a lot of built in obstacles which have developed over the years. Rules, processes, and procedures that were once meant to be helpful guidelines for behavior have morphed into bureaucratic nightmares for the innovator," said Thornberry.

"Innovation is a tool not a destination ... You can't innovate without mistakes, it's impossible," he continued. "In the LIEAF seminar, we want to open the aperture so that participants can see the art of the possible instead of just accepting the status quo ... Our main goal is to help the leaders in our course to utilize innovation thought and action to do more with less and to do it smartly."



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Danica M. Sirmans

### Inaugural CRUSER Colloquium Discusses Future Swarm on the Battlefield

By MC2 Danica M. Sirmans

Paul Scharre, a Fellow with the Center for a New American Security (CNAS), speaks during CRUSER's inaugural colloquium series in the Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering Auditorium, Jan. 12. CRUSER, or the Consortium for Robotics and Unmanned Systems Education and Research, launched the series to bring experts onto campus to encourage intellectual conversations in the areas of robotics and unmanned systems.

Scharre, a former U.S. Army Special Forces team leader, is the director of the 20YY Warfare Initiative at CNAS. His presentation, titled "The Coming Swarm," offered insight into the dynamic, modern battlefield and the advantages associated with swarm systems.

"Swarm systems allow us to be everywhere and nowhere at the same time," he said. "Systems that cooperate more intelligently help us to operate at greater speeds. [Today], we rely on silver bullets to get the job done, but in the future we need not rely on them."

Department of Operations Research Professor of Practice, retired Navy Capt. Wayne P. Hughes, weighed in on the importance of swarm technology.

"This technology is begging to be adopted. What we need is a czar in the Navy like Billy Mitchell ... he was a great naval hero because he forced the Navy to create room for Naval aviation," said Hughes. "We need a czar to bring along unmanned systems as well."



U.S. Navy Photo by MC3 Michael Ehrlich

### NPS Alumnus Takes Over As IGPO Executive Director

By MC3 Michael Ehrlich

NPS alumnus and retired Navy Capt. Al Scott, pictured in the International Flag Garden, Jan. 8, has some big shoes to fill as he transitions into his new role on campus as Executive Director of the International Graduate Programs Office (IGPO). Scott replaces retired Marine Corps Col. Gary Roser, who retired from his civilian NPS career following 23 years of service to the university.

"Col. Roser and the amazing IGPO staff have done a phenomenal job over the years," said Scott. "My immediate goal is to sustain the great program they have established and to continue to enroll high quality and diverse international students."

Scott is no stranger to NPS. He became an Aerospace Engineering Duty Officer (AEDO) after receiving his Master of Science in Astronautical Engineering from the university in 1996. In 2005, he returned to NPS where he completed his final active duty tour as a program officer, followed by a transition into the classroom as a lecturer with the Space Systems Academic Group.

Now that Scott has transitioned once again, he is looking forward to working with NPS' vibrant international student community. NPS typically has more than 200 international students representing between 40 and 50 different countries at any given time.

"[IGPO] is responsible for the cultural, social and academic integration of international military students and their families, and for making sure they are well taken care of," said Scott. "The education and exposure these students receive is invaluable to their countries and military services, and also strengthens U.S. international relations."

### New Student Council Officers Champion Community, Campus Participation

By Javier Chagoya

NPS President's Student Council (PSC) Chairman Lt. Aaron Steward, left, and Deputy Chair Lt. Cmdr. Ted Vermeychuk, right, are determined to reshape how students voice their concerns, and how the PSC reaches out to both the campus and the community.

"At the Naval Postgraduate School, we have a unique concentration of leaders from various services, both domestic and abroad, who can actually make a difference in the lives of a future generation of military and civilian leaders," said Steward.

This led to one of the PSC's primary goals, expanding upon the Community Leadership Program (CLP) established by Steward late last year. The CLP matches local schools with NPS student leaders in an effort to teach principles of leadership.

The PSC has also adopted an effort to revise the feedback process, and the long-standing Student Opinion Forms (SOF).

"A little over a year ago, I brought forward a recommendation to the PSC that the SOF be reviewed for content and efficacy," said





U.S. Navy photo by Javier Chagoya

current NPS student Lt. Cmdr. Dominic DiMaggio.

DiMaggio is now working with the PSC and the Provost to revise the SOF questionnaire, and its associated policies, in order to ensure that student feedback identifies best practices and lessons-learned from the classroom.

### HR Specialist Receives Meritorious Civilian Service Award

By MC2 Chablis J. Torrence



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Chablis J. Torrence

NPS Human Resources (HR) Specialist Dawn Diaz is pictured with her HR colleagues after being surprised with a Meritorious Civilian Service Award in recognition of her more than 25 years of service to NPS and the Navy.

"Your expertise will be missed," said NPS Provost Dr. Douglas Hensler. "You are a great asset to NPS and I hope you will come back and visit us."

Diaz distinguished herself in the HR department by providing quality and timely services in the areas of recruitment, classification, employee relations, and retirement counseling. Her efforts supported more than 1,200 administratively determined, general schedule and wage grade federal employees.

Diaz came to NPS in September of 1989, and will soon relocate to Portland, Oregon, where she has accepted a position with the Department of Energy.

### Dudley Knox Library Launches All New Website

By MC3 Michael Ehrlich

The Naval Postgraduate School's (NPS) Dudley Knox Library (DKL) launched its completely redesigned website, Dec. 28, with site administrators confident the new site will better enable its NPS student and faculty users to be more successful learners, researchers and educators.

"Our basic strategy is to curate a web presence to help our primary users, which are students and faculty," said DKL Web Services Librarian and co-chair of the library's web working group, Stacy DeMatteo. "We want all users to quickly and easily find what they need."

The process for realigning the DKL website began more than 18 months ago with dedicated research into modern web design, content authoring and strategy, detailed analytics and user input. Some additions include clearly defined search engines, links to specific NPS courses, and a "tool belt" for performing some of the more common tasks, such as printing from a laptop, finding articles or eBooks, and searching the latest NPS theses.



DKL and its web working group are already meeting regularly to discuss continuous improvements to the new site, but administrators say the most critical tool in driving that improvement is direct feedback from students and faculty. To check out the new DKL site and provide your feedback, visit <http://library.nps.edu/>.



U.S. Navy photo by MC2 Danica M. Sirmans

### New Students Kick Off Winter Quarter

By MC2 Danica M. Sirmans

Students enrolled in the Naval Postgraduate School's (NPS) national security affairs program take an opportunity to get to know the Dudley Knox Library during a break in classes, Jan. 5. The group is part of the nearly 400 new students beginning their graduate studies at NPS today.

Air Force Maj. Eugene Choi, pictured standing center, checked in to Monterey from a tour in Hawaii, and says he is eager to get the ball rolling after a 14-year break from school.

"I'm excited to tie in my operational experience with the academic side of the house, and I think NPS will help me do so," said Choi, a regional affairs strategist focused on Northeast Asia. "I'll graduate in March 2016, and I'm hoping to end up in Korea or Japan."

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